

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 PA-02 PRS-01 INR-07 SIG-02
/030 R

DRAFTED BY EA/P:STAFF:AJA
APPROVED BY EA/P:JFCANNON

-----107862 102046Z /43

R 101746Z JAN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO CINCPAC

COGARD

GOVGUAM

TREASURY

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ATTN PARIS FOR MARK PRATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, XC, US

SUBJECT: JANUARY 10 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. KOREA

REUTER (SEOUL) REPORTS US-ROK OFFICIALS AGREED TUES ON
PROCEDURES FOR SECURING TONGSUN PARK TESTIMONY. CIVILETTI
SIGNED MUTUAL PROSECUTION ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH VICE
JUSTICE MIN LEE CHONG-WON UNDER WHICH PARK FIRST WILL BE
QUESTIONED DESK OFFICIALS, LATER GIVE TESTIMONY IN US
COURT.

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CIVILETTI, IN SEOUL, SAYS WILL BEGIN QUESTIONING TONGSUN
PARK THURS; EXPECTS SESSIONS TO LAST 10 DAYS (AP CHITRIB).

HALLORAN (NYT) QUOTES SENIOR ATTY FOR HOUSE ETHICS CMTE
PETER WHITE THAT CMTE WILL DIRECT PARK TESTIFY IN OPEN
SESSION/WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS ON QUESTIONS IF HE COMES TO US.

TRIAL OF FORMER REP HANNA ON "KOREAGATE" CHARGES SCHEDULED
START ON 1/9, POSTPONED UNTIL 3/20 THANKS TO RULING ON
DEFENSE MOTION (REUTER WASHINGTON).

2. JAPAN

TREASURY FORMALLY DECIDES 5 JAPANESE STEEL FIRMS HAVE BEEN
DUMPING CARBON STEEL PLATE IN US. DECISION IN RESPONSE TO
PETITION FILED BY GILMORE STEEL CO/NOW GOES TO ITC FOR
DETERMINATION OF WHETHER DOMESTIC FIRMS HAVE BEEN INJURED BY
JAPANESE PRICE CUTTING. IN COMPANION ACTION, HOWEVER,
TREASURY CUT IN HALF PENALTY DUTIES IT HAD RECOMMENDED
AGAINST THESE 5 JAPANESE FIRMS (FARNSWORTH, NYT; PINE, WP;
LAWRENCE, JOC; AP SUN, PHINQ; JACKMAN, NYDN; WALLACE,
REUTER). DEPT'S ACTION DREW SHARP CRITICISM FROM GILMORE
CORP, WHOSE SPOKESMAN EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT TREASURY
"ACCEPTED THE SELF-SERVING AND UNVERIFIED JAPANESE DATA" ON
WHICH IT BASED CUT IN RECOMMENDED PENALTIES (WSJ).

AFTER MTG W/DEP SPECIAL TRADE REP WOLFF 1/9, USHIBA TOLD TOKYO
NEWS CONF, "IT HAS BECOME CERTAIN THAT TEMPORARY ECONOMIC
FRICTION BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES WILL COME
TO AN END." REMARKED, W/O ELABORATION, THAT US SEEMED
BE ASKING JAPAN "POSITIVELY LIBERATE" IMPORT MKTS IN
MOVE DRAMATIC ENOUGH TO CHECK PROTECTIONIST MOOD IN US
(ANAI, REUTER TOKYO 1/9).
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NEW ROUND TRADE TALKS BEGAN IN TOKYO 1/9. WORKING-
LEVEL NEGOTS INVOLVED RENEWED US DEMANDS THAT JAPAN
ACHIEVE 7 PCT ECON GROWTH/TURN CURRENT ACCOUNT SURPLUS
INTO DEFICIT/INCREASE IMPORTS ON FARM PRODUCTS. GOJ
SOURCES SAID BEFORE TALKS STARTED JAPAN WOULD SEEK
ASSURANCES THAT WASHINGTON WOULD DEFEND DOLLAR ON
FOREX MKTS/MAINTAIN PRINCIPLE OF FREE TRADE. FON
MINISTRY SPOKESMAN ADDED US UNSATISFIED W/PROPOSALS
MADE SO FAR BY JAPAN, INCL TARIFF CUTS/ABOLITION OR
REDUCTION IMPORT QUOTAS. MEANWHILE, STRAUSS LEFT FOR
TOKYO TUES, WILL HEAD MINISTERIAL-LEVEL TRADE TALKS
THURS/FRI. GENERAL FEELING IS THAT SOME SORT COMPROMISE
IN MAKING; BOTH SIDES HOPE FOR SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME
(NEWMAN, REUTER; CULLISON, JOC; MALCOLM, NYT, ALL
TOKYO).

IN TOKYO MONDAY, REP JONES (D-OKLA) TOLD REPORTERS THAT
IF TRADE AGREEMENT BEING WORKED OUT THIS WK PROVES ONLY
TOKEN ARRANGEMENT, PARTICULARLY IN AGRIC AREA, THEN
A MIN CAN COUNT ON SERIOUS PROBLEMS W/PROTECTIONIST-
MINDED CONGRESS (JOC TOKYO).

SOVIET FON MIN GROMYKO TOLD JAPANESE FONMIN SUNADA THAT
DUE ILLNESS BREZHNEV WOULD NOT BE ABLE RECEIVE SUNADA
ALTHO MTG PLANNED BY SOVIET SIDE. JAPANESE SOURCES
SAID THEY FELT THAT REPORT ON BREZHNEV'S HEALTH GENUINE/

DID NOT FEEL MTG'S CANCELLATION WAS DIPLO PLOY (CSM
MOSCOW).

PRODUCTION OF JAPAN'S 7 LARGEST SHIPBUILDERS IN 1977
DROPPED MUCH AS 37.9 PCT IN TONNAGE FROM '76 (WP).

3. PHILIPPINES

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VETERAN MANILA NEWSPAPER COLUMNIST/MARCOS SUPPORTER
VALENCIA TUES CRITICIZED REP WOLFF FOR SUGGESTING 1/9
THAT PHILS SHARE COST OF MAINTAINING US MIL BASES
THERE. TERMED WOLFF COMMENT INSULT, SAID PHILS DON'T
NEED US BASES. ADDED "BEST GESTURE OF FRIENDSHIP"
W/FILIPINOS WOULD BE FOR WOLFF TO WORK FOR DISMANTLING
BASES (REUTER MANILA).

GROUP OF FILIPINO AGRIC TRAINEES WORKING IN US UNDER
PROGRAM SPONSORED BY 4-H/GOP HAVE SIGNED PROTEST STATEMENT
CONTENDING PROGRAM PROVIDES NO TRAINING BUT INSTEAD IS
"-HEAP LABOR" SCHEME WHICH HAS HAD SOME TRAINEES WORKING
12-14 HRS PER DAY UNDER BAD CONDITIONS. 4-H ACKNOWLEDGED
RECEIVING COMPLAINT/HAS THUS FAR MADE NO RESPONSE
(KING, NYT).

4. AUSTRALIA

CSM'S DEELEY (MELBOURNE) DOES ITEM ON AUSTRALIA'S
DRINKING PROBLEM, REGARDED AS EXTREMELY SERIOUS BY
ORGANIZED LABOR/MANAGEMENT. OFFICIAL STATISTICS SHOW
AUSTRALIANS SPENDING 1 DOL ON DRINK FOR EVERY 3 DOLS
SPENT ON FOOD.

5. CHINA

REUTER (PEKING) REPORTS WALL POSTERS THERE CRITICAL OF CITY
AUTHORITIES. POSTER QUOTES BOOK OF POETRY PRAISING CHOU,
QUESTIONS FAILURE OF "PEKING MUNICIPAL CMTE" TO PUBLISH
BOOK, IN HANDS OF CMTE FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. POSTERS THOUGHT
TO BE IMPLIED CRITICISM OF PEKING MAYOR WU TEH.

6. THAILAND/VIETNAM

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RTG/SRV HAVE AGREED IN PRINCIPLE OPEN TRADE/ECON/TECH RELS, THAI FONMIN TOLD REPORTERS TUES. AGREEMENT RESULT VISIT VIET FONMIN--HIGHEST-RANKING VIET OFFICIAL VISIT THAILAND SINCE END OF WAR (REUTER BANGKOK).

7. VIETNAM

"BRILLIG"/3 CREWMEMBERS BELIEVED BE STILL IN VIET PORT AWAITING CALMER SEAS, DOS OFFICIALS SAID MON (REUTER 1/9).

8. VIETNAM/ASEAN

SPEAKING AT NEWS CONF CONCLUDING VISIT VIET FONMIN NGUYEN DUY TRINH TO MALAYSIA LAST WK, VIET VICE FONMIN VO DONG GIANG SAID ANY REGIONAL COOP IN SEASIA SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT ON "NEW BASIS AND NEW FORM CONFORMING TO THE NEW SITUATION." ACCORDING UNICOM NEWS (JOC KL) GIANG WANTS REGIONAL ORG TO REPLACE ASEAN WHICH HE SAYS IS US MIL BLOC. HE SAID "NEW SITUATION" RELATES TO "ELIMINATION OF FOREIGN MILITARY BASES" IN SEASIA/"ASPIRATION OF THE PEOPLE IN THE REGION FOR PEACE AND INDEPENDENCE."

9. INDOCHINA REFUGEES

IN NYT SPEC (ARANYHPRATHET), KAMM SAYS HOPE IS FADING FOR CAMBODIAN REFUGEES IN THAILAND--BECAUSE WAIT FOR MOST OF THEM APPROACHING 3 YRS, DEPARTURES BELOW 100/MO, MOST SUFFER FROM FAMILY SEPARATION/LIKELIHOOD MANY WHO DID NOT ESCAPE HAVE BEEN KILLED, DEJECTION AND APATHY HAVE SET IN. SAYS ARANYAPRATHET CAMP CROWDED WHEN ONLY 4,000 REFUGEES LIVED THERE; THEN LAST JULY RTG ROUNDED UP 3,000 CAMBODIANS WHO WERE LIVING NORMAL LIVES IN BORDER REGIONS/PUT THEM IN CAMP, TOO.

KAMM SAYS REFUGEE FLOW FROM CAMBODIA HAS SINCE DRIED UP, UNCLASSIFIED

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MANY REPORTED KILLED/JAILED/MISTREATED BY THAI OFFICIALS. SAYS INTERNEES' RESENTMENT AGNST THOSE WHO GUARD THEM IS STRONG: THEY BELIEVE MAIL IS RIFLED, MONEY ENCLOSED STOLEN; IF THEY WORK OUTSIDE CAMP, MUST SHARE THEIR WAGES W/GUARDS WHO LET THEM SLIP OUT; RATIONS RECENTLY CUT TO MEASURE OF 2 CANNED-MILK TINS/DAY.

10. SINGAPORE/IMMIGRANTS

GOS HAS INTRODUCED COMPUTERIZED ENTRY/EXIT PERMIT SYSTEM TO STEM STEADY FLOW ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS. ACCORDING REUTER'S SURESH (SINGAPORE), SCHEME WILL APPLY ALL FOREIGNERS, BUT CLEARLY AIMED AT UNEMPLOYED OF REGION, PARTICULARLY MALAYSIANS/INDOS. NEW SYSTEM WILL MAKE IT DIFFICULT OVERSTAY PASSES. UNDER EXISTING VISA REGS, PEOPLE CROSSING BORDER INTO MALAYSIA NOT REQUIRED PRODUCE TRAVEL DOCS ON SINGAPORE SIDE, MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR GOVT CATCH THOSE WHO OVERSTAY.

11. THAILAND

VICTOR GASKINS, 19-YR-OLD CHICAGOAN, SENTENCED 150-300 YRS FOR MURDER/ARMED ROBBERY OF TAWYEEOS SIRIKUL, 27-YR-OLD THAI EXCHANGE STUDENT WHO HAD GONE TO GASKINS' APT TO SELL HIS CAR. DECOMPOSED BODY LATER FOUND IN BASEMENT GASKINS' APT (CHITRIB).

12. CAMBODIA/VIETNAM

NEW REPORTS SAY VIET FORCES, VASTLY SUPERIOR TO CAMBODIAN TROOPS IN NUMBERS/EQUIPMENT, APPEAR CLOSE TO ACHIEVING SECURE BORDER ZONE AFTER MOS HEAVY FIGHTING. W DIPLOS REPORTED UNANIMOUS IN DOUBTING CAMBODIA'S CLAIMS THAT ITS UNCLASSIFIED

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TROOPS HAVE WON "GREAT VICTORY" OVER VN. DIPLOS BELIEVE SUCH STATEMENTS DESIGNED MAINLY FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION, TO BOOST CAMBODIA TROOP MORALE. RADIO PP ALSO REPORTED TROOPS/FACTORY WORKERS MET IN PP MON TO "HAIL THE GREAT VICTORY OF THE REVOLUTIONARY TROOPS OVER AGGRESSIVE VIETNAMESE TROOPS."

DESPITE REPORTED VIET SUCCESSES, CAMBODIA REMAINS ADAMANT AGNST RESPONDING TO SRV'S CALL FOR NEGOTS TO SETTLE BORDER DISPUTE. IN MANILA, VIET DEP FONMIN VO DONG GIANG ACCUSED CAMBODIANS OF COMMITTING "BARBAROUS CRIMES," BUT SAID IN SHORT/LONG-TERM INTEREST OF 2 NATIONS, THEY MUST UNITE; SAID, "THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE CONFLICT WILL BE SOLVED SOONER OR LATER BECAUSE OF THE GREAT FRIENDSHIP" BTWN VIET/CAMBODIAN PEOPLES. DIPLOS IN BANGKOK SAID VIET MIL DRIVE APPEARS HAVE 2 OBJECTIVES: TO CARVE OUT SECURE BORDER ZONE/FORCE CAMBODIANS TO NEGOT SETTLEMENT (REUTER'S ROGERS 1/9-10; PHINQ; AP, SUN, ALL BANGKOK).

"TASS" TOOK ISSUE MON WITH BRZEZINSKI ASSERTION THAT FIGHTING BTWN VN/CAMBODIA REPRESENTS "FIRST CASE OF A PROXY WAR BETWEEN CHINA AND THE SOVIET UNION." ACCUSING BRZEZINSKI

OF TRYING "PALM OFF THE DESIRES AS REALITY," AGENCY SAID CURRENT CONFLICT CAUSING "SINCERE ANXIETY "/ATTACKED "IMPERIAL FORCES" ATTEMPTING "WHIP UP ANIMOSITY" BTWN CHINA/USSR. NYT'S SHIPLER (MOSCOW), HOWEVER, SAYS UNCLEAR WHETHER 2 POWERS USING INDOCHINESE COUNTRIES AS SURROGATES IN LARGER CHINESE-SOVIET CONFLICT.

DOS SPOKESMAN CARTER DECLINED MON TO ENDORSE BRZEZINSKI'S VIEW OF VN-CAMBODIAN CONFLICT AS "PROXY WAR" BTWN CHINA/USSR. CARTER SAID HE WAS IN NO POSITION HAVE "CLEAR AND EASY SET OF ANSWERS" FOR THE FIGHTING. HE NOTED "THOUSANDS OF YEARS OF ENMITY" BETWN 2 COUNTRIES, REFUSED SPECULATE ON CHINESE-SOVIET CONSIDERATIONS (NYT).

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COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

13. JAPAN

WSJ'S THARP (TOKYO) SAYS SEEMS LIKELY JAPANESE WILL MAKE SOME FURTHER REDUCTIONS OF TRADE BARRIERS/GIVE DETAILS OF PLANS TO STIMULATE ECONOMY AT NEW ROUND US-JAPAN TRADE TALKS. STATES RISING PROTECTIONIST MOOD IN US CONGRESS CLEARLY WORRIES JAPANESE. QUOTES USHIBA THAT IF CONGRESS PASSES BILLS NEXT SESSION LIMITING JAPANESE IMPORTS, "IT WILL BE VERY BAD FOR MR. FUKUDA AND HIS CABINET."

14. KOREA

GLOBE EDIT SAYS US PEOPLE DESERVE DETAINED ACCOUNTING FROM TONGSUN PARK OF HIS ACTIVITIES HERE, AND THAT USG HAS OBLIGATION MAKE SURE THAT EXPLANATION IS FORTHCOMING. QUESTIONS WHETHER GOVT, ESP DOJ, IS MEETING THAT OBLIGATION. CLAIMS US HAS LEVERAGE TO COMPEL FULL COOPERATION. SAYS LIMITING PARK'S TESTIMONY TO COURT COULD SWEEP CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS QUESTION UNDER RUG. URGES CONGRESS/DOJ WORK TOGETHER TO DEVISE MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT ON PARK TESTIMONY, MAKE IT STICK W/SEOUL GOVT.

LAT'S JACKSON (SEOUL 1/8) SPECULATES ON DEGREE OF COOPERATION PARK WILL GIVE DOJ OFFICIALS NOW IN SEOUL. FEELS WHILE PARK HAS SOME INCENTIVE TO TALK (IMMUNITY WILL GIVE HIM FREEDOM ONCE AGAIN TO RUN HIS INTL RICE/SHIPPING/MFG BUSINESSES) PARK MAY STILL BE UNDER ORDERS TO SEOUL GOVT, AND, JACKSON SAYS, WHAT ROKG WANTS IS UNCLEAR. THINKS PRESENCE OF KOREAN OFFICIAL DURING QUESTIONING COULD INHIBIT PARK'S TESTIMONY. BUT SAYS IF PARK NOT FORTHCOMING, CIVILETTI MAY WITHHOLD OFFER OF IMMUNITY.

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LAT (1/8) CARRIES ARTICLE BY CENTER FOR INTL POLICY'S DON RANARD AND ASST MAX HOLLAND CRITICAL OF RECENT PENTAGON RECOMMENDATION TO SELL 60 F-16'S TO SK AS COMPENSATION FOR W/DRAWAL GROUND FORCES. SAY FURTHER USARMS SALES TO KOREA CAN ONLY BE USED TO PROP UP DISTASTEFUL PARK REGIME. ASSERT SK ARMED FORCES ALREADY SUPERIOR TO NORTH, FURTHER SALES WILL ONLY PROVOKE ARMS RACE. ALSO SCORE COMPENSATION PLANS' POTENTIAL TO CREATE DANGEROUS BUILD-UP OF INDIGENOUS ARMS INDUSTRY IN SK WHICH IT WILL USE TO ENTER INTL ARMS MKT

IN SEOUL, THORPE (WSJ) SAYS SK HAS BECOME DISTRIBUTOR OF MIL EQUIPMENT ABROAD, MAINLY TEXTILES/COMMUNICATIONS GEAR/OTHER LIGHT INDUSTRIAL GOODS. ASSERTS THAT DESPITE ROKG DENIALS, SALES INCLUDE MIL HARDWARE AS WELL--PATROL BOATS TO INDONESIA/MORTAR SHELLS TO THAILAND.

15. CHINA

KENNEDY HK STOP ENROUTE FROM PRC TO JAPAN DREW MANY REPORTERS/RESULTED IN SEVERAL STORIES. SEN SAYS "MORE COMMITTED THAN EVER" TO NORMALIZATION; CALLS TAIWAN FUTURE KEY OBSTACLE (UPI, CHITRIB). ISAACS (SUN HK) QUOTES HIM THAT PRC OFFICIALS GAVE NO HINT OF ANY WAY BREAK IMPASSE. WHILE IN PEKING, SEN PRESENTED REQUESTS FOR VISITS OF LONG-SEPARATED RELATIVES, COINCIDING W/GOVT STATEMENT THAT PRC WISHES RELAX RESTRICTIONS ON SUCH TRIPS, BUT RECEIVED NO RESPONSE. NYT NOTES HIS STATEMENT CHINA WILL BECOME MODERN INDUSTRIAL STATE IF IT AVOIDS SOCIAL TURMOIL/POLITICAL UPHEAVALS OF RECENT YRS (AP).

MORITZ (CSM HK) QUOTES SEN THAT HIS SUGGESTION THAT PRC ACCEPT US AID DEVELOP OIL PRODUCTION UNDER CONSIDERATION, DESPITE CHINESE OPPOSITION TO JOINT VENTURES. KENNEDY ALSO PROPOSED COOPERATION IN SCIENTIFIC EFFORTS ON EARTHQUAKES/MEDICAL RESEARCH/METEOROLOGY/AGRIC. BUT ONLY CONCRETE SIGN

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OF CHINESE WILLINGNESS FOR FURTHER EXCHANGES, SEN SAYS, IS AGREEMENT TO SEND 5-6 CHINESE MUSICIANS TO BSO'S TANGLEWOOD FESTIVAL NEXT SUMMER.

REUTER (KYOTO) QUOTES KENNEDY STATEMENT THERE TUES THAT US SHOULD CONSIDER ADOPTING JAPANESE FORMULA FOR NORMALIZATION: CUTTING DIPLO TIES W/TAIWAN, BUT CONTINUING ECON LINKS.

PHELPS (GLOBE HK) SAYS KENNEDY NEWS CONF COMMENTS SUGGEST SEN SEES SHIFT IN PRC ATTITUDE TOWARD NORMALIZATION TALKS. DESPITE FAILURE MAKE BREAKTHRU, QUOTES SEN THAT PEKING TALKING MORE PRACTICALLY, NO IDEOLOGY/POLEMICS.

MATHEWS (WP HK) NOTES KENNEDY'S OUTSPOKEN SUPPORT FOR NORMALIZATION LED CHINESE OFFICIALS ALLOW HIM UNUSUAL CONTACT W/CHINESE CITIZENS. CITES VISITS TO SHANGHAI PRISON/HUNAN TEACHERS' COLLEGE. SEN CONDUCTED POLL AT COLLEGE ASKING YOUTH WHICH AREAS IN CHINESE LIFE NEEDED TO DEVELOP MOST, W/RESULT: AGRIC/EDUCATION/INDUSTRY.

LAT'S MATHEWS (HK 1/8) SAYS PRC'S MOUNTING DESIRE TO TAP OFFSHORE OIL RESERVES HAS LED TO ACQUISITION OF 60 MIL DOLS IN US DRILLING EQUIPMENT AND HAS REVIVED SLUGGISH US-SINO TRADE. TRADE FIGURES LOWEST SINCE '72, PROBABLY DUE TO CHINESE UNHAPPINESS OVER PROGRESS OF NORMALIZATION TALKS/INTERNAL TURMOIL, MATHEWS SAYS. ADDS NEGOTS EXPECTED RESUME THIS MONTH FOR EVEN LARGER PURCHASE; US VISIT OF HIGH-RANKING PRC OIL DEL HAS SPURRED SPECULATION THAT EVEN MORE BUYING COULD BE IN OFFING. MATHEWS SAYS OIL RESERVES COULD BE KEY TO CHINESE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, DESPITE CIA

ESTIMATES THAT PRC DOMESTIC NEEDS WILL PREVENT IT

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;
BECOMING MAJOR EXPORTER. CITES BELIEF OF SOME FOREIGN GEOLOGISTS THAT CHINA'S OFFSHORE POTENTIAL EQUAL RESERVES OF NORTH SEA/ALASKA NORTH SLOPE COMBINED.

LAT'S CHRISS (1/8) ADDS THAT US TEAM OF OIL EXPERTS RETURNING FROM PRC RECENTLY IMPRESSED W/CHINESE OIL PRODUCTION EFFORTS. STRESS CHINESE ACHIEVEMENTS, SAY THEY HAVE BUILT COPIES OF ADVANCED EQUIPMENT THRU STUDY OF US TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS. BUT, OILMEN ADD, PRC WILL HAVE TO COME TO WEST FOR TECHNOLOGY TO MODERNIZE.

16. CAMBODIA/VIETNAM

WP'S MARDER SAYS OTHER AMERICAN OFFICIALS DO NOT GO FAR AS BRZEZINSKI. NOTES DOS AVOIDED SAME CHARACTERIZATION, BECAUSE "PROXY WAR" LITERALLY MEANS CONFLICT FOUGHT ON BEHALF OF OTHER NATIONS. THINKS BRZEZINSKI "EVIDENTLY DID NOT QUITE MEAN THAT EITHER"/EVEN SAID ON "FACE THE NATION" THAT VIET-CAMBODIAN CONFLICTS "HAVE A REALITY OF THEIR OWN. QUOTES BRZEZINSKI'S COMMENTS -HAT FACT CAMBODIA IS

"CLAIMING" RUSSIAN ADVISERS PRESENT "IS ITSELF POLITI-
CALLY IMPORTANT, EVEN IF UNTRUE," SAYING, "LARGER, INTER-
NATIONAL DIMENSION OF THIS CONFLICT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF."

CSM CARTOON (LE PELLEU) SHOWS VIETS DRIVING ARMORED TANKS
ACROSS CAMBODIAN BORDER, SAYING: "WE'VE GOT THIS SUPER
EQUIPMENT...WE CAN'T LET IT JUST RUST AWAY."

CSM'S WILLIS (MOSCOW) SAYS DOUBLE CHALLENGE FORCING MOSCOW
LOOK IN 2 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS IS CENTRAL FONPOL ISSUE
KREMLIN FACES LONG AS SPLIT W/CHINA REMAINS; FEELS JUDGMENT
IN MOSCOW IS THAT SPLIT DEEP AS EVER--PERHAPS DEEPER. SAYS
MOSCOW HAS MADE CLEAR IT FULLY SUPPORTS HANOI'S POSITION IN
BORDER CONFLICT--THAT CAMBODIA IS AGGRESSOR--ALTHO 2 MOS
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AGO MOSCOW WAS AVOIDING ANY HARSH COMMENTS ON NEW CAMBODIAN
RULERS, DISMISSING REPORTS OF MASSACRE OF VIETS AS PROPAGANDA.
FINDS NO PUBLIC INDICATION WHETHER USSR STEPPING
UP MIL/ECON AID TO VN (ACCOMPANIED BY PHOTO CAMBODIAN
TROOPS).

17. ASEAN

SUN EDIT (1/7) SAYS SINCE W/DRAWAL US FORCES/DISAPPEARANCE
SEATO, MAIN HOPE FOR RESISTENCE TO COMMUNISM IN SEASIA IS
ASEAN--TO MANY OBSERVERS FRAIL, LOOSELY ORGANIZED GROUP.
BUT NOTES ASEAN HAS ONE ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORTER--NCNA, WHICH
RECENTLY BROADCAST LIST OF ASEAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN '77.
SAYS, ACCORDING DOMINO THEORY, PEKING SHOULD BE UNDERMINING

ASEAN/PREPARING NEXT DOMINOS FOR TOPPLING, NOT PRAISING IT.
FEELS NOTION THAT CHINA APPRECIATES STRONG/SELF-SUFFICIENT
DEVELOPING NEIGHBORS, EVEN IF ANTI-COMMUNIST, HARDLY SQUARES
W/MAOIST IDEOLOGY--BUT DOES CONFORM TO PRIORITIES OF RULERS
PREOCCUPIED W/CHINA'S OWN DEVELOPMENT, W/NATL ABOVE REVOLU-
TIONARY INTERESTS, W/USSR AS RIVALS. CONCLUDES COMMUNITY
OF INTEREST EXISTS IN US/PRC HOPES FOR THE REGION. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE006034
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: STAFF:AJA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780015-0292
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780180/aaaacpjt.tel
Line Count: 482
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: eea6eae4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 9
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3800091
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JANUARY 10 EA PRESS SUMMARY
TAGS: SOPN, XC, US
To: EA POSTS MOSCOW MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eea6eae4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014